



August 23, 2006

Dear Community Leader:

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region 6 office in Dallas, Texas, is very interested in ensuring that EPA serves the Hispanic community well. It is for this reason that I cordially invite you to be part of a critically important Hispanic Stakeholder's Forum entitled "**Beyond Translation**" that will take place in San Antonio, Texas, on October 17-18, 2006. By bringing together Hispanic leaders from non-profit organizations, local governments, civic groups, business, academia and other segments of the Hispanic community, EPA will explore ways to: better understand environmental issues of greatest concern to Hispanics; improve our communication and involvement with the community; and, find additional ways to share information on such things as funding and employment opportunities, environmental regulations and conditions, and other assistance EPA can provide Hispanic communities.

We hope to use this Forum as a catalyst for greater involvement and partnerships with Hispanics throughout our region so as to create a better understanding of how EPA can continue improving our environment. The forum will also serve to establish and/or enhance the networks necessary to ensure we meet the environmental and informational needs of the entire Hispanic community. Your views on how EPA can make a difference in the lives of Hispanics are important. Please join us in San Antonio to be part of this important dialogue.

Enclosed you will find the draft Agenda for the Forum, a map, hotel and registration information. Please feel free to contact our Program Chair, Ms. Paula Flores-Gregg at (214) 665-8123 if you have any questions or need additional information. Thank you in advance for your assistance and support. Together we can make a difference in improving our natural environment and ensuring healthy communities.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Miguel I. Flores".

Miguel I. Flores, Director
Water Quality Protection Division
EPA Region 6